

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings and versions of claims in this application.

1-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Withdrawn) Use of a protein to modulate the viscosity of a composition comprising one or more viscous soluble fiber(s), wherein said protein is at least one of wheat protein, egg protein, collagen, whey protein, casein, soy protein, pea protein, muscle protein, gluten, fibrillar protein, silk proteins, and hydrolysates thereof.

20. (Withdrawn) The use according to claim 19, wherein said viscous soluble fiber is at least one of gum, pectin, beta-glucan, mucilage, and carrageenan.

21. (Withdrawn) The use according to claim 20, wherein said gum is at least one of konjac gum, locust bean gum, tare bean gum, gum tragacanth, karaya gum, xanthan gum, arable gum, guar gum, and gellan gum.

22. (Currently Amended): A composition for oral or enteral administration comprising one or more viscous soluble fiber(s) and one or more viscosity-lowering protein(s),

wherein said one or more viscous soluble fiber(s) is selected from the group consisting of agar, alginates, carubin, pectin, beta-glucan, carrageenan, furcellaran, arabinogalactan, pectin and its derivatives, cellulose and its derivatives, scleroglucan, psyllium and gums; and

wherein said one or more viscosity-lowering protein(s) the protein is moderately hydrolyzed and is selected from the group consisting of wheat protein, egg protein, collagen, whey protein, casein, soy protein, pea protein, muscle protein, gluten, fibrillar protein, silk protein and combinations thereof; and

wherein said one or more viscosity-lowering protein(s) has the ability to lower the viscosity of viscous soluble fibers in the composition to less than about 500 mPas at room temperature.